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## Denali Training Fund Quarterly Progress Report

Funds for this project are provided by the USDOL and the Denali Commission and managed, in partnership, by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Name of Organization: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	
Name of Project: Dental Health Aide Therapist Training Program(DENTEX)	
Reporting Period: April 1,2009 to June 30,2009	8-219 3666-F
Contact Person: Mary Anaruk	
Contact Number: 907-729-5601	Email Address: meanaruk@anthc.org
Expenditures to date: \$208,000.00	
Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.	
Signed by: <u>Mary Anaruk</u> Dated <u>7-15-09</u>	

### 1. In a few sentences, please describe the scope of your project:

The ANTHC Dental Health Aide Therapy (DHAT) Training Program is a collaborative effort, in conjunction with the University of Washington's School of Medicine's MEDEX Northwest. This Dental component- our training center is called DENTEX. DENTEX trains Dental Health Aide Therapist students in oral health care and once graduated students will be deployed by their sponsoring Tribal Health Organization to a rural village clinic as DHATs.

### 2. Project Activities for this Reporting Period:

Describe the grant activities that happened during this report period. Include planning, advertisement and/or training performance that occurred this quarter? List any accomplishments achieved. (Attach advertisements if applicable)

### **Student Activities at the Anchorage Training Center**

- During April, classes were held on the study of the Development of Head, Neck & Face Anatomy with Dr. Kathy Rafferty from the University of Washington.
- Basic Restorative Functions was taught by Dr. Ron Nagel. Students practiced their techniques practicing dental fillings on plastic teeth.
- Oral Pathology taught by Dr. Bea Gandara is a favorite with the students as they learned how to use an intraoral camera, to take pictures of oral tissues, and complete oral cancer screenings.
- Dr. Shoffstall and Dr. Williard taught the Local Anesthesia course. Students spent time both in the classroom and operatories learning how to properly give dental anesthetic injections.
- During May clinical skills practice continued focusing on Local Anesthetics, dental anatomy, and dental restorations. They also spent time getting familiar with dental handpieces.
- The month ended with Dr. Anthony Bolin, an Assistant Professor and the Assistant Director of the Dental Public Health Residency Program, at Baylor College of Dentistry coming up to teach techniques for diagnosing and treating decayed teeth.
- Summer break for Anchorage most students began June 8<sup>th</sup>. Some students stayed an extra week for remediation with Dr. Shoffstall. All students successfully demonstrated appropriate levels of competency by the end of the week and will return for Summer Quarter on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Student Activities at the Bethel Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic***

- The YEDTC staff office and clinic moved into the Yuut Elitnaurviat Technical Education and Support Services (TESS) Building on the Yuut Elitnaurviat Campus at the end of last month and finalized the move this month. The new training clinic has a reception area, classroom, staff office, sterilization room, clinical laboratory, four open operatories, and one closed operatory.
- In mid-April, the students started treating patients in the new clinic at the TESS Building. Many patients in treatment prior to the break have been seen at the new building and have commented on how much they like the new facility.
- This quarter Elsie Patrick, a dental assistant from YKHC, replaced Diane Aloralrea as the YEDTC Office Assistant. Elsie is proving to be an asset to the program as she speaks Yup'ik, a native language of the region, and has been able to assist the DHAT students during patient care.
- On April 15, the students, Dr. Allen, Kathy Balasko, and Elsie Patrick (Office Assistant) went to the Ayalpik Apartments to provide the elders living there with oral screening exams

and preventive services as pictured below. Working with the elders in the community is Ben Steward's Community Project this year. As with last year, the seniors appreciated the students' visit, and the students enjoyed working with the elders.

- Dr. Robert Allen completed his rotation with classroom instruction focused on Oral Pathology.
- Dr. Anthony Brusca returned as the instructor, and his primary focus has been on Cariology.
- The students describe the new clinic as spacious and comfortable. They like the new classroom, as it is much larger than the previous one, and has a wonderful view of Bethel and the tundra. The students also express pleasure in knowing that they will be here permanently and that this is "their" space. As a result, they have been setting-up the operatories, and arranging and re-arranging various rooms when not treating patients.
- Approximately 100 patients received care during the month; providing the students with a variety of dental experiences. The students are progressing in their training, and have started performing more complicated restorative procedures. During these clinical encounters, they benefit from the close supervision of Dr. Allen and Dr. Brusca.
- Kathy Balasko continued with the Community Dental Health course during morning lectures for two weeks in May.
- The Bethel students will be on Summer Break from Monday, June 1, through Friday, July 3. The students will be returning home during the break to spend time with friends and family.

### 3. Scheduled Project Activities/Important Dates for next quarter:

Describe your planned activities and training for next few months. Please include important dates like graduation, site visits, travel, job fairs, etc.

All students traveled either home or on vacation over break. One of our students probably had the most exciting summer break traveling with his fiancé on a three week trip to Australia, and then back to Seward for their wedding prior to returning to Bethel. It will be quieter during the first part of the quarter with the Bethel site returning July 6<sup>th</sup> and Anchorage returning July 27<sup>th</sup>.

The Anchorage Training Center activities will then begin with a series of classes on Stainless Steel Crowns, Operative Dentistry, Periodontal/Hygiene Skills, and Diagnosis and Treatment Planning. This will be followed by several weeks of Skill Consolidation supervised by Dr. Williard and Dr. Shoffstall.

Bethel Yuut Eliitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic continues with their clinical work. In late July they will have visiting instructor, Dr. Phil Weinstein of the University of Washington Dental Fears Clinic, reviewing behavior management techniques and motivational interviewing.

4. a. How many are in your training program during this reporting period?

We have six training at our Bethel site and eight in our Anchorage program.

b. How many people have been trained and/or certified to date from this grant?

Four students completed two years of training in 2008. One of these students did not successfully complete remediation required for a certificate of successful completion. Three are in their preceptorship and will be submitting for certification in the future.

(Please complete form below.)

5. Please complete the list by putting the community to which each individual trained is from, the type of training and certification, the graduation date and who will employ them upon completion of training.

Community where trainee lives	Type of Training/ Service	Type of Certification to be earned/earned	Dates of training	Graduation Date	Employment commitment after training is complete
Chistochina Danielle Boston	DHAT	Certification as a Dental Health Aide Therapist	January 2007 to December 2008	December 12, 2008	Will work for Mt. Sanford Tribal consortium.  In preceptorship process.
Yakutat Sheena Nelson	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Will work for Yakutat Tribe.  Preceptorship with SEARCH.
Klawock Dan Kennedy	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Will work for SEARHC.  In preceptorship process.
Russian Mission Chris Evan	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC).  Unsuccessful remediation for certificate of completion.  May be working toward Primary Dental Health Aide

					Certification.
Bethel Tambre Guido	DHAT	Same as above	January 2008 to December 2009	December 2009	Sponsored by (YKHC).
Seward Ben Steward	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) in Fairbanks and will be assigned to Galena.
Elim Ooyuan Nagaruk	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by TCC in Fairbanks and is assigned to Tok.
Mountain Village Bernadette Charles	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC.
New Stuyahok Marian Petla	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.
Atka Tatiana Barracough	DHAT	Same as Above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by the Aleutian Pribilof Island Association and will work throughout the Aleutians.
Fort Yukon Corrina Cadzow	DHAT	Same as above	January 2009 to December 2010	12/ 2010	Sponsored by Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments.
Unalakleet Bonnie Johnson	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC.
Scammon Bay Alison Kaganak	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC.
Noatak Anjanette Norton	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by Maniilaq Association.
King Cove Erik Linduska	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by Eastern Aleutian Tribes (EAT).

Manakotak Ferdella Sharp	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by BBAHC.
Sand Point Chelsea Shoemaker	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by EAT.
MT. Village Phylcia Wilde	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC.

Please copy and use another sheet if you need more spaces.

6. Please identify any problems or changes in your training project that will affect the budget, scope or timeline of the project.

Currently our project is within budget and training is going well.

Curriculum is working well with the students and grades are given as appropriate to their progress. Our scope has remained the same; to train DHAT's over a two year course so they can return to work under their supervising dentist in order to complete the final preceptorship and then get certified as DHATs.

Is your training on schedule? What are the reasons for any difficulties or delays? Are you over budget/under budget? Have you had to change the initial scope?

The training program as remained on schedule and is yearly admitting the number of students set forth as our goal (6-8). We remain on budget and there have been no changes to the scope of education.

Please provide an explanation to this change and your resolution to the variance. (written above)

7. How are you or will you be evaluating the individuals being trained to ensure competency, skill level and understanding? (Testing, assessment, etc)

The first year students spend their morning undergoing didactic coursework and are tested weekly on material that is covered. During the afternoons students are working in the clinic. Clinical skills (patient management, X-ray technique, drilling and filling skills) are evaluated using a criteria sheet. Students evaluate themselves and then have their instructor evaluate their work. This allows time for one on one discussion with their instructor about the strengths of their work and areas that need improvement.

Our second year students also have didactic coursework, but the main focus is on clinical skills. Criteria sheets are also used with the second year class. Second year students also take turns serving as dental assistants for each other. This allows for students to role model and mentor each other.

Please identify areas that we can assist you in the future.

The continued support of the Denali Commission is greatly appreciated. We plan to submit another application for our future 2<sup>nd</sup> year students since this is a welcome assistance to ANTHC. We've been encouraged to apply after we secure support from our member Tribal organizations which we will be doing during the summer quarter. The Denali funds assist ANTHC with supporting the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, but the Tribal organizations can also apply and we do not want to compete with them for funds.